Ulster University
Library

Web of Science – Quick Guide

COVERAGE

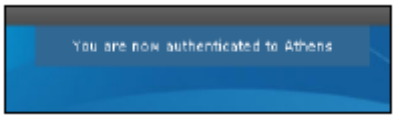
Web of Science is a cross-disciplinary database covering the fields of science, engineering and computing, social science and arts and humanities.

Web of Science is a bibliographical database. Full text access to some content is provided; for some you may need to connect via our other electronic sources or consult the Library Catalogue.

ACCESS

Web of Science is available on and off-campus.

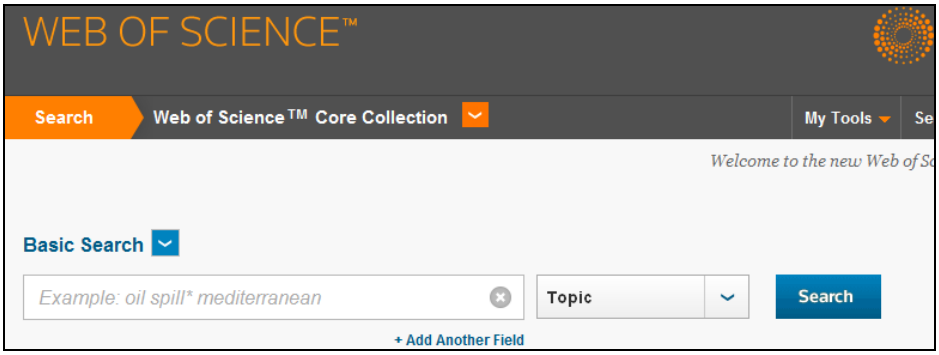
- Log on to the Portal at **portal.ulster.ac.uk**
    - Wait for the Athens Authentication banner to drop down



- Select the Library & ICT tab.
- Select the Databases link, displayed under Key Services, on the right hand side of the screen. The A-Z listing of Library Databases is displayed on the screen.
- Click on **W** and scroll down to select **Web of Science**.
- Click **Proceed**

SEARCHING

Web of Science will open to the Basic Search in Web of Science's Core Collection.



Begin by adding search words to the search box.

You can add and remove rows by clicking the + Add Another Field link.

COMBINING SEARCH TERMS

Combine terms using the connectors AND, OR, NOT from the drop down menu or by typing them directly into the box.

OR – use OR to find articles which use **any or several** of your search terms, or to combine terms that are similar
This will increase the number of articles found
e.g. poison OR venom OR toxicant

AND – use AND to find articles which use **all** of your search terms, or combine terms that are different
This will reduce the number of articles found
e.g. oxygen AND level AND blood

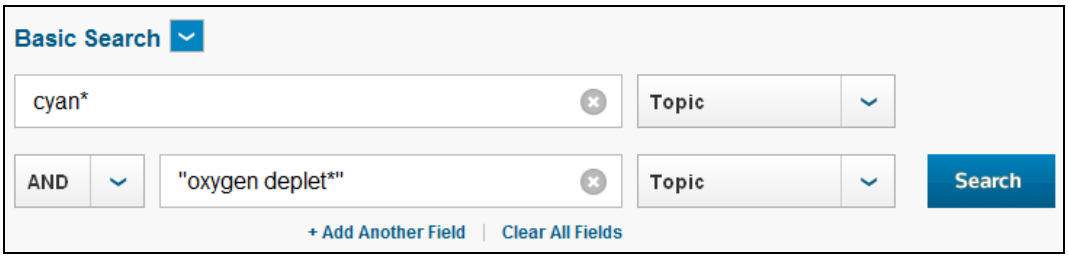
NOT - use NOT to exclude terms
e.g. copper NOT lead
Use this search with caution as it may exclude relevant results*

Advanced searching techniques can also be used:

Truncation – placing a * at the natural end of a word (the stem) will find all variations
e.g. cyan* will find cyan, cyanide, cyanotic, cyanosis, and cyanobacteria

Phrase searching – Placing double quotation marks around terms will search for it as an exact phrase
e.g. “oxygen depletion”

Example search



TIMESPAN AND CITATION INDICES

You can specify a date range for your search and select citation indices from Web of Science’s Core Collection using the options beneath the search box.

VIEWING RESULTS

Your results will be displayed as a list of references, with the total number of results found at the top of the results box. Click on the article for more information including the abstract, if available.

You can refine search results by using filters; find the most frequently used on the column on the left hand side of the screen beside the results.

Accessing Full Text

To access the full text:

- From the article abstract screen, click

- Click

- If the article is available from the Library's holdings, a new window will open with the full text

Where no full text is available online, remember to check the **Library Catalogue** (enter the journal title) **before** requesting an article through the Document Delivery service.

HELP

If you are having difficulty accessing full text off campus take a look at the off campus guide: **guides.library.ulster.ac.uk/offcampus**

Web of Science also has an excellent help section which you can access at any time by clicking Help at the top right of the screen.

A guide to Web of Science's **Additional Features** is also available.

Don't worry if you are having problems using the database; just contact a member of the Life and Health Sciences subject team who will be happy to help.

Contact Details

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